

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-151 (cancelled).

152. (new) A head protection system comprising a helmet shell, mounting means on the shell for pivotally mounting a visor thereto to permit the visor to be moved between raised and lowered positions, and

a visor adapted for mounting on said mounting means, said visor comprising a first layer of transparent material, and a plurality of layers of high tensile strength fabric connected to said first layer and covering part of said first layer, said part being limited to an area which is positioned outside a region of said first layer which forms a transparent viewing area of said visor.

153. (new) A head protection system as claimed in claim 152, comprising a further layer of transparent material covering said viewing area.

154. (new) A head protection system as claimed in claim 153, wherein said viewing area is defined by a peripheral boundary and said further layer of transparent material has a peripheral edge which is positioned adjacent the peripheral boundary of said viewing area.

155. (new) A head protection system as claimed in claim 153, wherein said visor has a front and a back and said further layer is positioned towards the front of the visor and the first layer is positioned behind the further layer.

156. (new) A head protection system as claimed in claim 155, wherein said further layer comprises one of acrylic and glass.

157. (new) A head protection system as claimed in claim 152, wherein said visor has a front and a back, and said first layer is positioned towards the front of the visor and the plurality of layers of high tensile strength fabric are positioned behind said first layer.

158. (new) A head protection system as claimed in claim 152, wherein said high tensile strength fabric comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of Dyneema®, Spectra® and an aramid material.

159. (new) A head protection system as claimed in claim 152, wherein said visor comprises a front portion and left and right side portions formed by said layer of transparent material and said plurality of layers of high tensile strength fabric extend over at least part of said side portions.

160. (new) A head protection system as claimed in claim 152, wherein said visor comprises a lower portion formed by said layer of transparent material and positioned below said viewing area and said plurality of layers of high tensile strength fabric extend over at least part of said lower portion.

161. (new) A head protection system as claimed in claim 152, wherein said visor comprises an upper portion comprising said first layer and positioned above said viewing area and said plurality of layers of high tensile strength fabric extend over at least part of said upper portion.

162. (new) A head protection system as claimed in claim 152, wherein said viewing area comprises a window and said plurality of layers of high tensile strength fabric at least partially surround said window.

163. (new) A head protection system as claimed in claim 152, wherein said first layer comprises a formable plastic material.

164. (new) A head protection system as claimed in claim 163, wherein said first layer comprises a polycarbonate.

165. (new) A head protection system as claimed in claim 152, wherein the portion of the visor comprising said first layer and said plurality of layers of high tensile strength fabric extending over said first layer has a V50 impact rating of 600 meters/second or more using the test standard MIL-STD-662F using a .22 millimeter projectile defined in MIL-P-46593A.

166. (new) A head protection system as claimed in claim 152, wherein said plurality of layers of high tensile strength fabric are generally opaque.

167. (new) A head protection system as claimed in claim 152, wherein said plurality of layers of high tensile strength fabric are bonded together to form a laminate.

168. (new) A head protection system as claimed in claim 152, further comprising retaining means for releasably retaining said visor on said mounting means.

169. (new) A head protection system as claimed in claim 152, wherein said visor is shaped for accommodating a face mounted respirator when said helmet is worn by a user and the visor is in the lowered position.

170. (new) A head protection system as claimed in claim 152, further comprising locking means for releasably locking said visor in at least one of a raised position and a lowered position, wherein said locking means is spaced apart from the pivotal axis of said mounting means, and comprises a depressible locking member mounted on said helmet shell for locking said visor, and a manually accessible depressible member coupled to said locking member.

171. (new) A head protection system as claimed in claim 170, further comprising a stop member positioned below the pivotal axis of said mounting means and secured to said helmet shell for engaging a portion of said visor and arranged to resist rearward movement of said visor relative to said shell, wherein said stop member is further arranged to prevent a force to the front of the visor being transmitted to said moveable member.

172. (new) A head protection system as claimed in claim 171 wherein said stop member comprises a shock absorbing material.

173. (new) A head protection system as claimed in claim 171, wherein said stop member is positioned in front of said moveable member.